



UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20436

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TO: Interested Parties -- Commercial Availability Reviews

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Program Managers for Commercial Availability Reviews

SUBJECT: Commercial Availability Review on Shirts and Blouses of Certain
Flannel Fabrics (Investigation No. 332-465-003)

The U.S. International Trade Commission has initiated one review to provide advice concerning three new petitions filed under the “commercial availability” provisions of the United States-Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act (CBTPA). The petitions concern three different types of 100-percent cotton flannel fabrics. Two of the petitions cover 4-thread twill weave, flannel fabrics made from yarn-dyed, ring-spun yarns; both of which are classified in HTS statistical reporting number 5208.43.00.00. One of these fabrics is woven of yarns that are combed and are of at least two and up to as many as eight different colors. The other fabric is woven of yarns which are plied and are of two or more different colors in the warp and the filling. The third petition covers a double faced sateen flannel fabric of which the face fabric is made of yarn-dyed filling yarns and the back side of the fabric is made with a printed pattern created with fiber reactive dyes. This fabric is classified in HTS statistical reporting number 5209.59.00.25. The first two petitions request that men’s and boys’ shirts made of the 4-thread twill weave flannel fabrics and assembled in one or more of the CBTPA beneficiary countries be eligible for preferential treatment under the CBTPA. The third petition requests that shirts and blouses made of the double faced sateen flannel fabric and assembled in a CBTPA beneficiary country be eligible for preferential treatment under the CBTPA.

The petitions were filed on behalf of B*W*A*, New York, NY, by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, P.A, and received by the Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA) on March 3, 2005. The petitions allege that the fabrics cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner.

The Commission will conduct the review and provide advice under its investigation No. 332-465, *Commercial Availability of Apparel Inputs (2005): Effect of Providing Preferential Treatment to Apparel Imported from Sub-Saharan African, Caribbean*

Basin, and Andean Countries, instituted at the request of the United States Trade Representative (USTR). The advice concerns the probable economic effect on U.S. producers, workers, and consumers of granting duty-free treatment to apparel made in eligible countries from the specified fabrics, regardless of the source of the fabrics, should CITA determine that the fabrics cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner. The Commission will submit its advice to USTR in a classified report by April 14, 2005, and issue a public version of it soon thereafter.

The Commission invites interested parties to submit written statements (original and 3 copies) concerning issues to be addressed by the Commission in this review by March 28, 2005. Information on procedures for submitting written statements to the Commission can be found in its notice of investigation, which was published in the *Federal Register* of January 26, 2005 (70 F.R. 3728) and posted on its website at http://www.usitc.gov/secretary/fed_reg_notices/332/332_465_institution01242005sgl.pdf.

Further information on this review can be obtained from Laura Rodriguez (202-205-3499); laura.rodriguez@usitc.gov. Information on the commercial availability investigation of the Commission can be obtained from its Program Managers (see above) and from its website at http://www.usitc.gov/ind_econ_ana/research_ana/pres_cong/332/short_supply/shortsupply_intro.htm. Information on commercial availability requests is also available from the U.S. Department of Commerce, which chairs CITA, on the website of its Office of Textiles and Apparel at <http://otexa.ita.doc.gov/CA.htm>.